

FISCAL NOTE

HB 4174 - SB 4131

March 6, 2008

SUMMARY OF BILL: Establishes the *Tennessee Pregnant Women Support Act* which requires the Department of Health to develop an informational pamphlet for distribution to women about pregnancy services and develop a toll-free hotline for pregnancy assistance. Creates the "Tennessee Pregnant Women Support Fund." Requires health insurance companies to not treat pregnancy as a pre-existing condition.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Revenue –

Exceeds \$50,000/Tennessee Pregnant Women Support Fund

Increase State Expenditures - \$41,200/One-Time

\$581,900/Recurring

Exceeds \$50,000/Tennessee Pregnant Women Support Fund

Assumptions:

- The Department of Health will provide the informational pamphlet on the Department's website for easy access to providers and individuals and easier, less costly maintenance to keep the information up-to-date resulting in a not significant increase in expenditures.
- The Department estimates the need for a public health educator and an administrative services assistant to handle duties of developing and updating the informational pamphlet, working with providers on providing the information, and answering the hotline calls.
- These two positions are estimated to increase expenditures by \$144,724. This amount includes one-time expenditures of \$9,500 for computers (\$3,200), printers (\$900), and office set-up (\$5,400) and recurring expenditures of \$135,224 for salaries (\$79,512), benefits (\$27,312), administrative allocation (\$15,800), communications and networking (\$3,200), office leases (\$8,200), and supplies (\$1,200).
- The Department estimates that the creation, implementation, and support of the "Tennessee Pregnant Women Support Fund" will require an additional public health program director, public health educator, accountant, administrative services assistant, and administrative secretary.

- These five positions are estimated to increase expenditures by \$369,326. This amount includes one-time expenditures of \$22,700 for computers (\$8,000), printers (\$1,200), and office set-up (\$13,500) and recurring expenditures of \$346,626 for salaries (\$204,858), benefits (\$70,368), administrative allocation (\$39,500), communications and networking (\$7,400), office leases (\$20,500), travel (\$1,000) and supplies (\$3,000).
- The Department will raise funds, solicit gifts and donations, and apply for grants for the fund. The money in the fund is allocated for grants to community health centers, migrant health centers, homeless health centers, public-housing centers, or any other public or private entity approved through the application process. Grant funds awarded to the entities can be used solely for carrying out activities enumerated in the bill.
- It is unknown the amount of grants, gifts, donations or other funds the Department will be able to collect. It is reasonably estimated that the increase in revenue to the "Tennessee Pregnant Women Support Fund" will exceed \$50,000.
- It is estimated that any increase in revenue for the "Tennessee Pregnant Women Support Fund" will be awarded to approved entities resulting in an increase in expenditures of \$50,000.
- The Department assumes that the promotion of the pregnancy support hotline and adoption awareness will be done through the Department's website with links to resources and through media outlets. It is estimated this will result in an increase in expenditures of \$100,000.
- The Department of Health, Office of Policy Planning and Assessment, will incur an increase in expenditures as a result of needed program changes to the Death Data System to accept a new data field on a death certificate showing a woman was pregnant at the time of death.
- These program changes are estimated to be 150 hours at a rate of \$60 per hour resulting in an increase in one-time expenditures of \$9,000 (\$150 x \$60).

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director

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